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LETTER DATED 14 JANUARY 1991 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to transmit to you the text of the decision taken on 12 January 1991 by the Supreme Soviet of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics concerning the situation in the Persian Gulf.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter circulated as an official document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Y. VORONTZOV

Annex

Decision of the Supreme Soviet of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics concerning the situation in the Persian Gulf

Having, at the request of the fourth session of the Congress of People's Deputies of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, reviewed the evolving crisis in the Persian Gulf and expressing its serious concern at the absence of any progress towards a peaceful settlement of the conflict and at the constantly rising tension prevailing in the region both militarily and politically, the Supreme Soviet of the USSR decides:

1. To support, because they correspond to the vital interests of the country, the many initiatives taken by the Government of the Soviet Union with a view to resolving the conflict in the Persian Gulf peacefully, in accordance with the rules of international law and with the requests made by the Security Council of the United Nations in its resolutions;

2. To invite all the parties to display a heightened sense of their responsibilities, to continue their efforts to find a political solution to this crisis, and not to accept a military confrontation which would have catastrophic consequences for the Middle East and the entire world. In this connection, the Supreme Soviet of the USSR hails and endorses the peace efforts being undertaken by the Secretary-General of the United Nations;

3. To instruct the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Defence of the USSR to keep it regularly informed of any changes in the situation in the region of the Persian Gulf and the Middle East and to inform its international affairs, defence and national security committees of specific measures taken in accordance with this foreign policy of the Soviet Union.

The Supreme Soviet of the USSR affirms that decisions which, under the Constitution of the USSR, require the approval of the supreme legislative body cannot be taken without its agreement.

L. LUKYANOV
Chairman of the Supreme Soviet of the
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics